

FILED

AUG 28 2020

In the Iowa Supreme Court

CLERK SUPREME COURT

In the Matter of Adoption of)
Amendments to Registration of) Order
House Counsel Rule 31.16 and)
CLE Requirement Rule 41.3(3))

The Iowa Supreme Court adopts amendments to Iowa Court Rule 31.16 concerning house counsel registration and client security fund assessments, and the court adopts amendments to Iowa Court Rule 41.3(3) concerning unmoderated legal education credits. The amendments are provided with this order and are effective immediately.

Registration of house counsel

The court invited public comment on the proposed amendments to rule 31.16 and has reviewed the comments received. After further consideration and discussion during the court's Administrative Term, the court adopts amendments to rule 31.16 that include removing the five-year limitation on house counsel registration status and making house counsel attorneys' client security fund assessments consistent with other Iowa attorneys and consistent with how other jurisdictions treat house counsel registrants.

In all, the following provisions of Iowa Court Rule 31.16 are amended or renumbered or both:

- Rule 31.16(3) *Scope of authority of registered lawyer* (amended)
- Rule 31.16(6) *Reinstatement* (amended)
- Rule 31.16(7) *Reapplication* (new)
- Rule 31.16(8) *Sanctions* (renumbered)
- Rule 31.16(9) *Court's discretion* (renumbered and amended)
- Rule 31.16(10)(a) *Duration of registration—credit toward admission on motion* (renumbered and amended)
- Rule 31.16(11) *Lawyers registered under prior version of this rule* (renumbered and amended)
- Rule 31.16(12) *Denial of application or suspension of registration for failure to comply with an obligation owed to or collected by the*

Central Collection Unit of the Iowa Department of Revenue (renumbered)

- *Rule 31.16(13) Denial of application or suspension of registration for failure to comply with an obligation owed to or collected by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (renumbered)*
- *Rule 31.16(14) Denial of application or suspension of registration for failure to comply with a support order (renumbered)*

Unmoderated legal education


On May 22, 2020, the supreme court issued a comprehensive order broadly addressing Iowa Judicial Branch operations in response to the continuing spread of Covid-19. The May 22 order maintained many provisions of prior pandemic supervisory orders, including the temporary lifting of the six-hour cap on unmoderated CLE credits as set forth in Iowa Court Rule 41.3(3) for the 2020-2021 reporting period.

Upon further consideration, the court hereby permanently removes the cap on unmoderated legal education accredited by the Commission on Continuing Legal Education. Rule 41.3(3), in chapter 41 of the Iowa Court Rules, Continuing Legal Education for Lawyers, is stricken.

The amendments to Iowa Court Rule 31.16 provided with this order and the removal of rule 41.3(3) from chapter 41 of the Iowa Court Rules are effective immediately.

Dated this 28th day of August, 2020.

The Iowa Supreme Court

By 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice

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